

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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AMEMBASSY MADRID
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C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 4242

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC

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TAGS: EEC, GR, TU, DA, SP, PO
SUBJ: US-EC PRESIDENCY DIALOGUE: READOUT ON POLITICAL DIRECTORS'
MEETING, COPENHAGEN, JUNE 28-29, 78: ENLARGEMENT AND
POLITICAL COOPERATION

REF: (A) COPENHAGEN 4026

1. MFA EC PRESIDENCY OFFICER, CHRISTOPHER BRAMSEN, TOLD US THIS
AFTERNOON THAT THE PRINCIPAL ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE
POLITICAL COMMITTEE WAS "THE FUTURE OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL COOPERA-
TION IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF EC ENLARGE-
MENT." HE COMMENTED THAT SOME OF THE NINE WERE MORE
PESSIMISTIC THAN OTHERS OVER THE CHANGES AND DIMINUTION
IN POLITICAL COOPERATION THAT WILL RESULT WITH THE
ACCESSION OF THE THREE SOUTHERN APPLICANTS.
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2. BRAMSEN RECALLED THAT AT THE LAST FOREIGN MINISTERS'
MEETING IN COPENHAGEN JUNE 12, THE DECISION WAS TAKEN TO HAND
OVER TO THE GREEKS A PACKAGE OF BASIC MATERIAL: THE
COPENHAGEN AND LUXEMBOURG REPORTS; A PAPER ON EUROPEAN IDENTITY;
AND THE RULES OF PROCEDURE. THIS WAS DONE IN LUXEMBOURG ON
JUNE 26.

3. AT THAT TIME THE BRITISH MADE THE POINT, WHICH WAS ACCEPTED BY THE OTHER EIGHT, THAT SPAIN AND PORTUGAL SHOULD BE BROUGHT IN MORE QUICKLY TO THE POLITICAL COOPERATION PROCESS THAN HAS BEEN THE CASE WITH GREECE. THE GREEKS RECEIVED THESE DOCUMENTS ON WHAT WAS THEIR SEVENTH NEGOTIATION MEETING WITH THE NINE. THE SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE WILL GET THEM AT THE FIRST NEGOTIATION MEETING WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE SOMETIME THIS WINTER FOR PORTUGAL AND NEXT SPRING FOR SPAIN.

4. AT THE EIGHTH NEGOTIATION MEETING, THE GERMANS WILL PASS ON TO THE GREEKS A PACKAGE OF SUBSTANTIVE DOCUMENTS WHICH ARE STILL IN PREPARATION. THIS WILL BE A COMPENDIUM OF POSITIONS TAKEN ON POLITICAL QUESTIONS BY THE NINE, DISCUSSIONS AMONG THE NINE ON VARIOUS MATTERS, ETC. SOME OF THESE DOCUMENTS ARE PUBLIC, OTHERS ARE CONFIDENTIAL. SPAIN AND PORTUGAL WILL RECEIVE SIMILAR PACKAGES LATER. THE NINE WANT TO DO EVERYTHING THEY CAN TO MAKE SURE THAT THE APPLICANTS HAVE BEEN MORE OR LESS FORMALLY ADVISED OF EC-9 POLITICAL POSITIONS BEFORE THEY ENTER THE COMMUNITY.

5. ALSO UNDER ENLARGEMENT, THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF THE FUTURE POLITICAL DIALOGUE WITH TURKEY. SINCE TURKISH MEMBERSHIP IS NOT ENVISAGED, THIS PROCESS WILL GO THROUGH ONLY TWO INSTEAD OF THREE PHASES: INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION. THE "COOPERATION" PHASE WON'T BE CONFIDENTIAL

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REACHED. ALTHOUGH THE BASIS FOR INFORMING THE TURKS OF EC POLITICAL DECISIONS WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1972, IT HAS BEEN USED VERY LITTLE.

6. THE NINE WISH TO ASSURE THAT THIS INFORMATION PHASE WITH THE TURKS, WHICH WILL PROBABLY BE HANDLED BY THE CURRENT EC PRESIDENT ALONE, STARTS IN EARNEST AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE IDEA IS THAT WHEN THE GREEKS SIGN THE TREATY AND ENTER THE SECOND STAGE OF THE POLITICAL PROCESS, (CONSULTATION), THE EC-TURKISH PHASE WOULD ALSO ENTER ITS SECOND STAGE.

7. THE GERMANS WILL LOOK INTO HOW THE-MODALITIES WILL BE WORKED OUT. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS, IT SEEMS CLEAR, BRAMSEN SAID, WILL EMPLOY THE THREE-PRESIDENCY FORMULA. BRAMSEN ALSO COMMENTED THAT THE CONSULTATION STAGE WITH THE TURKS WILL PROBABLY BE SIMILAR TO THE US-EC DIALOGUE NOW BUT THAT IT IS TOO EARLY TO BE SURE.
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